



R05-15-A-032

James S. Perry **Executive Director**

MEMBER COMMUNITIES

Allen Park • Brownstown Township • Dearborn • Dearborn Heights • Ecorse • Flat Rock Gibraltar • Grosse lle Township • Huron Township • Lincoln Park • Melvindale • River Rouge Riverview • Romulus • Rockwood • Southgate • Taylor • Trenton • Woodhaven • Wyandotte

Department of Energy

FUNDING SOURCES:

Department of Defense

Environmental Management Support, Inc. ATTN: Mrs. Edie Findeis Cromwell 8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500 Silver Spring, MD 20910 Phone 301-589-5318

December 18, 2014

Department of **Human Services**

> Subject: FY2015 Brownfield Assessment Grant Application Downriver Community Conference Brownfields Coalition

> > Southgate, Michigan

Federal Transit Authority

Dear Mrs. Cromwell:

Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth

The Downriver Community Conference (DCC) and the cities of Allen Park, Dearborn, Ecorse, Gibraltar, Grosse lle Township, Melyindale, Monroe, Riverview, River Rouge, Romulus, Southgate, Taylor, Tecumseh, Trenton, Woodhaven, and Wyandotte, the \$600,000 US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Coalition Assessment Grant. The DCC will serve as the grant recipient.

Michigan Department of Community Health

Port of Monroe, and Washtenaw County, Michigan have formed a coalition (the DCC Brownfields Coalition [DCCBC]) to apply for a

Michigan Department of **Environmental Quality**

The economic downturn experienced by most of the United States in recent years hit early and hard in the Downriver area. It is widely recognized that the economy in the Downriver area, and in Michigan as a whole, has been stagnant for the last several years and in a sustained recession since 2000. The Downriver region has been the home to heavy industry, dominated by the American automobile industry, for nearly a century. The decline in industry in the Downriver area has left increased unemployment (up 15% since 2000), a decline in municipal populations (down 27% since 1960), and a massive tax revenue shortfall for municipal governments. According to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management, and Budget WARN Notices, approximately 30 plants have closed in the targeted communities since 2008 resulting in nearly 7,000 layoffs. These numbers are staggering and further exemplify the economic strain on the Downriver area. The US Department of Lebor reported that in September 2014, the unemployment rate in Michigan (7.2%) was one of the highest in the nation. Wayne County's April 2014 unemployment rate, where most of the Coalition communities are located, was even higher (8.9%).

Michigan Department of Transportation

> The Coalition now has a legacy of disadvantaged and contaminated areas, often in close proximity to old industrial sites and automobile plants. Over 700 brownfield sites in Coalition communities are listed in the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Part 201 List and leaking underground storage tank (LUST) databases. However, these sites represent only a small portion of the known and potential brownfields in such an old, industrialized area. Each one has the effect of discouraging development and encouraging development of greenfields outside this urban core area.

Michigan Economic Development Corporation

> The DCC has proven to be an effective organization to implement EPA brownfields funding. Since 1997, the DCC has received \$2,600,000 in EPA Assessment grants. The most recent assessment grant was awarded in 2012 and is already 100% expended

Small Business Administration

> and/or committed. The success of the DCC assessment grants is impressive; the Coalition has assessed over 270 sites in over 20 communities and completed over 140 Phase I ESAs, 100 Phase II ESAs, 55 BEAs/Due Care Plans, and 115 Hazardous Materials Surveys.

Southeast Michigan Community Alliance

> The financial shortfall of the Coalition communities has limited their ability to respond to deterioration in their communities. Because of the old, established nature of the communities, they are fully developed with little available green space. In order to preserve this green space and revitalize the communities, brownfields must be redeveloped. Environmental assessment; effective, aggressive planning and marketing by the communities; and economic incentives to new businesses that redevelop these sites are critical to revitalizing brownfields. Environmental assessments are one of the key first steps. Each municipality recognizes that by pooling expertise and resources they can have more success on a regional basis than by trying to compete individually for the limited Brownfield grant funds.

U.S. Department of Labor

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

> 15100 Northline Road • Southgate, MI 48195 Phone: (734) 362-7070 • Fax: (734) 281-6661 • T.T.Y. 1 (800) 649-3777 www.dccwf.org

a. Applicant Identification

Downriver Community Conference

15100 Northline Road, Southgate, Michigan 48195

b. Applicant DUNS Number:

38-2160259

c. Funding Requested

i) Grant Type: Assessment

Federal Funds Requested: \$600,000

iii) Contamination: \$450,000 Hazardous Substances and \$150,000 Petroleum

iv) Coalition

d. Location

DCC Brownfields Coalition communities, including Allen Park, Dearborn, Ecorse, Gibraltar, Grosse Ile Township, Melvindale, Monroe, Riverview, River Rouge, Romulus, Southgate, Taylor, Tecumseh, Trenton, Woodhaven, and Wyandotte, the Port of Monroe, and Washtenaw County, Michigan.

e. Site-Specific Property Name

Not applicable, community-wide Coalition.

f. Contacts

i) Project Director: Ms. Paula Boase

Director of Economic Development, Downriver Community Conference

15100 Northline Road, Southgate, MI 48195

Phone: (734) 362-3477; Facsimile: (734) 281-6661; Paula Boase@dccwf.org

ii) Chief Executive: Mr. James Perry

Executive Director, Downriver Community Conference

15100 Northline Road, Southgate, MI 48195

Phone: (734) 362-3469; Facsimile: (734) 281-6661; <u>Jim.Perry@dccwf.org</u>

g. Date Submitted

December 17, 2014

h. Project Period

Three years (2015-2018)

i. Population

Based on the US Census Bureau (2010 Data), the population of the Coalition is listed below.

Municipality	Population	Municipality	Population
Allen Park	28,210	Romulus	23,989
Dearborn	98,153	Southgate	30,047
Ecorse	9,512	Taylor	63,131
Gibraltar	4,656	Tecumseh	8,521
Grosse lie Township	10,354	Trenton	18,853
Melvindale	10,715	Woodhaven	12,875
Monroe	20,733	Wyandotte	25,883
Riverview	12,486	Washtenaw County	344,791
River Rouge	7,903	Total	730,812

Other Factors Checklist

Attached

The DCC Brownfields Coalition appreciates your consideration of our application. We look forward to working with your staff to continue our brownfields program.

Sincerely,

Paula Boase

Director of Economic Development Downriver Community Conference

Distribution: Mr. Brad Bradley and Ms. Romona Smith, EPA Region 5



FY2015 NARRATIVE PROPOSAL FOR EPA BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENT GRANT DCC BROWNFIELDS COALITION - SOUTHGATE, MICHIGAN

1. Community Need:

1a. Targeted Community and Brownfields

1a.i) Targeted Community Description: Downriver is the unofficial, but commonly used, name for a collection of suburban and rural communities in three counties, south of Detroit, Michigan along the western shore of the Detroit River. Downriver has been the home to heavy industry, dominated by the American automobile industry, for nearly a century. In addition to automobile manufacturing facilities, steel mills, foundries, and countless automotive component manufacturers were located throughout the Downriver area. In 1990, Michigan's "Big 3" (General Motors, Ford and Chrysler) held 71.6% of the American automobile market. By 2010, these companies held just 45% of the market. Not only has this resulted in plant closures for the Big 3, but countless automotive suppliers have gone bankrupt and ceased local operations. The decline in industry in the Downriver area has left increased unemployment (up 15% since 2000), a decline in municipal populations (down 27% since 1960), a massive tax revenue shortfall for municipal governments, and a legacy of vacant industrial brownfield sites, many of which are near residential neighborhoods that housed workers at the shuttered industrial facilities. According to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management, and Budget WARN Notices, approximately 30 plants have closed in Downriver communities since 2008, resulting in nearly 7,000 layoffs. These numbers further exemplify the continued economic strain on the Downriver area. The Downriver Community Conference (DCC) Brownfield Coalition (Coalition), a consortium of 17 Downriver communities, including the cities of Allen Park, Dearborn, Ecorse, Gibraltar, Grosse lle Township, Melvindale, Monroe, Riverview, River Rouge, Romulus, Southgate, Taylor, Tecumseh, Trenton, Woodhaven, and Wyandotte, the Port of Monroe, and Washtenaw County, Michigan, was established in 1997 to revitalize brownfield sites throughout the region. The Coalition requires significant funds to continue support of its brownfield redevelopment initiatives.

The overall goal of the Coalition is to provide funding for brownfield redevelopment projects throughout its communities that will create new jobs, reduce threats to health, welfare, and the environment, and stimulate the overall viability and desirability of the surrounding neighborhoods. The Coalition recognizes that some of its communities, and specific areas within these communities, have greater need than others in terms of economic stability, poverty levels, concentrated areas of blight, public health concerns, environmental degradation, and available resources to address brownfields on their own (four of the Coalition communities have populations of less than 10,000). Priority sites have been identified in these targeted areas for assessment under the grant (Section 1a.iii).

1a.ii) Demographic Information: The *US Department of Labor* reported that in September 2014, the unemployment rate in Michigan (7.2%) was one of the highest in the nation. Wayne County's April 2014 unemployment rate, where most of the Coalition communities are located, was even higher (8.9%). The socioeconomic challenges in the Coalition communities where our targeted sites are located are exemplified in the following table. Census Tract data for each specific targeted priority site area, where further concentrated areas of blight and public health concerns exist, are provided in Section 1a.iii.

Targeted Downriver Community	Population ¹	Unemployment ²	Poverty Rate ²	Percent Minority	Median Household Income ²
Dearborn	98,153	7.2%	25.7%	13.3%	\$46,972
Ecorse	9,512	13.7%	33.0%	63.5%	\$29,502
Gibraltar	4,656	8.8%	7.5%	7.3%	\$68,706
Melvindale	10,715	7.8%	23.3%	33.4%	\$36,327
Monroe	20,733	7.0%	18.0%	13.9%	\$42,738
River Rouge	7,903	13.2%	37.8%	65.2%	\$26,588
Riverview	12,486	6.1%	9.8%	10.0%	\$50,865
Tecumseh	8,521	6.1%	9.4%	4.0%	\$50,014
Ypsilanti (Washtenaw Co.)	19,435	13.4%	28.8%	40.6%	\$32,996
Coalition Average4	730,812	7.2%	16.4%	23.5%	\$53,002
State Average	9,883,640	7.2%3	16.3%	23.4%	\$48,471
National Average	308,745,538	5.8%3	14.9%	26.7%	\$53,046
Data is from US Census Bureau (2010), www.census.gov. Data is from 2008-2012 American Community Survey, factfinder2.census.gov. Data is from Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov. Includes all 17 Coalition communities					

1a.iii) Brownfields: The Coalition has a legacy of disadvantaged and contaminated areas, often in close proximity to old industrial sites and automobile plants. Over **700** brownfield sites in Coalition communities are listed in the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Part 201 List and leaking underground storage tank (LUST) databases. However, these sites represent only a small portion of the known and potential brownfields in such an old, industrialized area. These contaminated sites pose a serious obstacle to a clean and healthy environment, vigorous economic conditions, and an improved quality of life. The following brownfield sites, occupying hundreds of acres, have been identified as priorities for assessment activities based on the severity of threats posed to nearby sensitive receptors and their redevelopment potential.

Targeted Priority Areas	Project Description	Contaminants VOCs, PAHs,	Exposure Pathways	Health Effects
Ecorse River Neighborhood	rhood vacant 58-acre steel mill property and former industrial property.		Direct contact, inhalation, vapor intrusion (VI)	Eyes, skin, liver/ kidney damage, neurological and nervous system
minority population	rs: Adjacent to residential neighborhoods and 24% unemployment.	and Ecorse River.	CT 5797 has 29	
River Rouge Marion Industrial Property	19-acre vacant heavy industrial property formerly utilized as a fuel supply company, chemical plant and aggregate company (fuel storage, acid manufacturing, storage tanks, rail spurs, fill material, vehicle servicing).	Petroleum, chlorinated, solvents, PAHs, metals, sulfate	Direct contact, VI, airborne particulates	Eyes, skin, liver/ kidney damage, neurological and nervous system, reproductive and developmental problems
Sensitive Receptor population, and 20	<u>rs:</u> Property has frontage on Rouge River. 0.4% unemployment. 23.7% of the populati	CT 5792 has 25.3 on has a disability	% poverty rate,	43.2% minority
and Front Street Neighborhood	Vacant and underutilized properties former utilized as a paper mill, various manufacturing, and auto assembly factory (~70 acres).	VOCs, PAHs, petroleum, heavy metals	Direct contact, inhalation, VI	Eyes, skin, liver/ kidney damage, neurological, nervous, gastrointestinal system
Sensitive Receptor	ors: Adjacent to a low-income residential ne i318 has a 24.2% poverty rate and 36.5% i	ighborhood and g unemployment.		in close proximity to
Dearborn Industrial Neighborhoods	7 rundown vacant factories (~25 acres) that are no longer compatible with surrounding land use. Per City's Master Plan, assessment is needed to determine appropriate use.	Petroleum, VOCs, PAHs, metals, asbestos	Direct contact, inhalation, VI, airborne particulates	Eyes, skin, liver/ kidney damage, neurological and nervous system, reproductive and developmental problems, respiratory disease
Sensitive Recepto	ors: Several properties are located adjacent e and 15.2% unemployment.	t to residential nei	ghborhoods and	schools. CT 5736 has a
Riverview Pennsylvania/ Jefferson Neighborhood	This targeted area of Riverview contains over 180 acres of vacant former manufacturing related properties. Areas to be assessed include a former brine field and construction yard.	VOCs, PAHs, metals, sodium, chloride	Direct contact, inhalation	Eyes, skin, liver/ kidney damage, neurological and nervous system
Sensitive Receptor 5950 has a 67.9%	ors: Located adjacent to or in vicinity of resi poverty rate and 11.7% unemployment.		oods, Detroit Riv	
Tecumseh Patterson Property	Vacant 800,000 square foot former manufacturing plant located on 53.69 acres. 24 former underground storage tanks.	Chlorinated solvent plume, petroleum, asbestos	Direct contact, VI, airborne particulates	Eyes, skin, liver/ kidney damage, neurological and nervous system, and developmental problems
Sensitive Receptor household income	ors: Adjacent to a residential neighborhood e of \$36,250.	. CT 608 has a 17	% unemployme: 	nt rate with a medium

Targeted Priority Areas	Project Description	Contaminants	Exposure Pathways	Health Effects			
Meivindale Wabash Avenue Neighborhood	Former junkyard property that has remained vacant due to potential contaminant risks.	Fill, PAHs, metals	Direct contact, inhalation	Skin, liver/ kidney damage			
	rs: Adjacent to a residential neighborhood. 3.7% unemployment.	CT 5786 has a 27	7.8% poverty rat	·			
Ypsilanti Water Street Neighborhood	38-acre vacant property formerly used for automotive repair and various industrial and commercial operations. Site is located along a 1,000-foot meander of the Huron River and adjacent to Downtown Ypsilanti.	VOCs, PAHs, metals, PCBs, cyanide	Direct contact, inhalation, VI	Eyes, skin, liver/ kidney damage, neurological and nervous system, reproductive and developmental problems, respiratory disease, cancer			
Sensitive Receptor population, and 19	ors: Adjacent to a Huron River and park sys 5.3% unemployment.	stem, CT 4108 has	a 39.2% poven	ty rate, a 52.2% minority			
Gibraltar Jefferson Neighborhood	This area includes an underutilized steel mill constructed in 1954 (~50 acres/600,000 sq/ft building). The mill property contains lagoons, former annealing/pickling areas, and abandoned transformers. Over 5 miles of canals contaminated from former local industrial processes.	VOCs, PAHs, metals, PCBs, asbestos	Direct contact, inhalation, VI, airborne particulates	Eyes, skin, liver/ kidney damage, neurological and nervous system, respiratory disease, cancer			
Sensitive Receptor neighborhoods. C	Sensitive Receptors: Adjacent to Humbug Marsh Wildlife Refuge and Detroit River and in close proximity to residential neighborhoods. CT 5970 has 13.1% percent unemployment.						

In addition to these targeted, priority projects, over 25 additional brownfield sites throughout the Coalition communities have been identified for assessment. The estimated costs associated with the identified assessment projects located in Coalition communities are estimated to be well over \$600,000.

1a.iv) Cumulative Environmental Issues: The Coalition communities face greater health and environmental challenges than most communities because of their long industrial heritage and proximity to industrial pollution. Approximately 30 plants have closed in the Coalition since 2008 resulting in nearly 7,000 layoffs (http://www.michigan.gov). Worker's homes were traditionally built around these plants, which are now abandoned and neglected and surrounded by low-income, minority populations. The Cities of River Rouge and Ecorse have filed suits against local industry due to nuisance dust issues. According to a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 2009 Health Consultation, manganese levels have been identified in these residential communities' surface soil above the MDEQ Residential Particulate Soil Inhalation Criteria. The main source of this contamination was attributed to emissions from local industries. Nearly 35 percent of River Rouge's and Ecorse's residents are below the poverty level, compared with a statewide average of 16.3 percent (www.census.gov).

Coal-fired power plants, which produce fine particulate pollution, are the leading source of electricity in Michigan. Three major coal power plants are located Downriver. Low-income and minority populations are disproportionately impacted, due to the tendency of companies to avoid locating power plants in the vicinity of affluent communities.

Coal Power Stations	Census Tract	Poverty Rate ¹	Percent Minority ²	Median Household Income
Monroe Power Plant	8318	25.2%	43%	\$21,629
River Rouge Power Plant	9856	37.8%	65.2%	\$26,588
Wyandotte Municipal Power Plant	5807	18%	7.4%	\$27,910
1 Data is from 2008-2012 American Community S	survey, factfinder2 census go	v. 2 Data is from US Censu	s Bureau (2010), www.census	s.gov.

Coalition communities are also home to four major active landfills accepting both municipal and industrial wastes. In addition, numerous unregulated, abandoned landfills exist throughout the communities. A closed Class III landfill and an unlicensed industrial waste landfill in need of proper closure/remediation actions are located in the targeted Gibraltar Jefferson neighborhood, further stressing the area.

Further exacerbating the cumulative environmental impact on the target communities is vehicle pollution. 4-94 and 1-75 traverse nearly all of the Coalition communities and are the most traveled roads in Michigan. According to the EPA, motor vehicle emissions contribute to ambient levels of air toxics known or suspected as human or animal carcinogens, or have non-cancer health effects, including neurological, cardiovascular, liver, kidney, and respiratory effects as well as effects on the immune and reproductive systems.

1b. Impacts on Targeted Community: As described above, many of Downriver's targeted brownfield sites are located in close proximity to sensitive populations such as low income residential areas with large minority populations. The health effects of this disproportionate impact are exemplified in the following health data for

Wayne County, where a majority of the target communities are located.

	Rate of Asthma	Cancer		Liver/Bile Duct Cancer	
	Hospitalization	Mortality Rate	Mortality Rate	Incidence ⁷	Cancer Incidence ⁷
U.S.	171	168.6 ³	6.85	7.1	15.9
Michigan	16.6 ²	178.14	6.96	6.1 / 10.8*	16.5 / 21.3*
Wayne County	31.3 ²	188.94	10.36	9.5 & rising / 13.4*	19.6 & rising / 23.4*

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2004 National Discharge Survey. ² Asthma Initiative of Michigan, Michigan Asthma Statistics, 2004-2006.
³ Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH), 2011 (age adjusted, per 100,000 population). ⁴ MDCH, 2010-2012 (age adjusted, per 100,000 population).
⁵ U.S. Census Bureau, Statistical Abstract of the United States. ⁵ MDCH, 2012 (age adjusted, per 1,000 live births). ⁵ National Cancer Institute, Sate Cancer Profiles for Michigan by County 2007-2011 (per 100,000 population). ⁵ Denotes Black and Hispanic population.

The Downriver area is one of the top 25 areas in the U.S. polluted by year-round fine particulate matter. Furthermore, Downriver is one of the 25 most ozone-polluted areas in the U.S (*America Lung Association [ALA]*, *State of the Air 2005*). The ALA reported in 2014 that Wayne County has the highest number of pediatric asthma cases in Michigan, coupled with the highest state population living in poverty. African Americans are also three times as likely as Caucasians in the Downriver area to be hospitalized for asthma (*MI Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, 2010*), further evidence of the disproportionate impact. Further, the ALA of Michigan indicates in the *State of the Air 2014 for Wayne County* ozone levels received an "F", the lowest grade given by the ALA and particulate pollution (24-hour average), received a "D". From 2000 to 2010, the age-adjusted mortality rates for invasive cancer in the Downriver area (Wayne County) were 12% higher than the State, with 205 age-adjusted deaths (*Michigan Department of Community Health, 2010*). In 2010, the age-adjusted breast cancer mortality rate was 23% higher than the State; with 29 age-adjusted deaths.

The blighted, abandoned buildings at a number of targeted brownfield sites also pose safety hazards to the surrounding impoverished residents. These communities are not able to adequately secure all of the abandoned buildings to prevent children and squatters from entering. Many of these buildings contain asbestos and lead-based paint, contaminants which are known to cause respiratory disease, developmental problems in children, and cancer. In addition, the abandoned buildings can be settings for criminal activities, which further endanger the neighborhoods. According to SEMCOG, in 2010, 1 in every 33 homes in Wayne County were foreclosed units. The regional foreclosure epidemic is felt throughout all Coalition communities.

In addition to direct human health risks, brownfield sites threaten and have impacted sensitive ecological receptors/natural habitats. Downriver communities are generally located near or along the west bank of the Detroit River, which connects Lake Huron with Lake Erie. Several rivers, including the River Rouge, Ecorse River, Huron River, River Raisin and their tributaries flow through Coalition communities. Brownfield sites have contaminated rivers and streams in the Downriver region with levels of hazardous substances that affect the health of aquatic populations, such as the 25 species of fish, reptiles/amphibians and birds that have been recorded in the Detroit River watershed and are protected under the Endangered Species Act. These river sediments reveal the legacy of industrialization. Proper assessment and remediation efforts are needed to address contaminants in river sediments such as mercury and PCBs. The City of Gibraltar canal systems are planned for assessment; however, the Coalition has no funds to carry out these activities.

1c. Financial Need

1c.i) Economic Conditions: The massive tax revenue shortfall for Downriver municipalities as a result of plant closures, plummeted housing values, and reduced local government revenue sharing by the State of Michigan has limited their ability to respond to deterioration in their communities. Municipal budgets have dropped (by an average of 30%) and communities are in desperate need of funding to support the assessment and cleanup of the numerous brownfields that are contributing to the ongoing deterioration of their neighborhoods and commercial districts. One of the area's primary financial concerns is the lack of employment opportunities, which is disproportionately impacting minority and impoverished residents. The *U.S. Department of Labor*

reported that in September 2014, the unemployment rate for the Downriver area was on average 10%. This is compounded by the number of <u>local plant closures</u> (at least 6 in Coalition communities in 2014 alone, resulting in over 700 lost jobs [www.michigan.gov]).

The Coalition recognizes that some communities have greater need than others in terms of economic stability, poverty levels, concentrated areas of blight, public health concerns, environmental degradation, available staff resources, etc. and do not have the resources to address brownfields on their own (<u>four of the Coalition communities have populations of less than 10,000</u>). For example, the Cities of Ecorse and River Rouge are two of the smallest of the Coalition communities (both with less than 10,000 residents) and have the highest poverty, highest unemployment, lowest household income, and highest minority populations of the Coalition. Ecorse and River Rouge's poverty rates are over twice the national average and their population has decreased by nearly 50% since 1970. These target communities will receive priority status in the site selection process. Priority sites from both communities have been identified for assessment under the grant. In addition, as later discussed, the Coalition has selected a key representative from a partnered community-based organization to become an active stakeholder in this brownfields program. One of the many important roles of this representative is to offer suggestions on reaching out to communities with greater need and assist in developing additional relevant networks within these disadvantaged communities.

Since 1997, the DCC has received \$2,600,000 in EPA Assessment Grants that have been used to assess 270 brownfield sites. The most recent \$650,000 assessment grant was awarded in 2012 and was 100% committed within 18 months. The demand for these grant funds has been very high, leading the Coalition to be selective in the properties that are funded and capping funds that can be used at a site. However, more than 35 additional sites have been identified for assessment, but have not been approved due to lack of funding. In addition, grant conservation efforts, although effective at distributing the funds to a high number of project sites, did not provide adequate funding for the assessment of some of the larger, more contaminated sites such as the Gibraltar steel mill property, which is identified for assessment under this grant.

1c.ii) Economic Effects of Brownfields: The Coalition communities now have a legacy of disadvantaged and contaminated areas. Each one has the effect of discouraging redevelopment and encouraging development of greenfields outside of our communities. The poor financial condition of our communities has been exacerbated by the decline in the municipal tax base caused by plant closures and the lack of reinvestment back into our communities. As shown in Sections 1a.ii and iii, the economic impact of brownfields is worse in the predominantly low income or minority neighborhoods surrounding brownfields. Specific examples include:

• The City of <u>Ecorse</u> is one of the oldest municipalities in Wayne County. Because of its ideal location for shipping along the Detroit River, Ecorse became a regional industrial center (two major steel mill plants were built in the 1920s). However, as the industrialization era ceased, Ecorse experienced radical financial, operating and structural changes over the last several decades. By the end of 2009, a financial emergency was declared due to an approximately \$9 million deficit. This has resulted in a decline in assessed property values, reductions in State and federal grants, reductions in the overall revenue base, and a decline in the quality of services provided to its residents.

Much like Ecorse, the City of <u>River Rouge</u> continues to experience financial woes. According to the 2013
Financial Report, due to the ongoing budget battle, expenditures of the General Fund were reduced by
approximately \$491,000 from 2012 levels. Decreasing funds coupled with a 13.2% unemployment rate
has resulted in a tremendous financial stress on the public. The impoverished residents (65.2% poverty
rate) do not have the resources necessary to move away from the numerous brownfields.

As the City of <u>Melvindale's</u> population continues to decline, so does the municipal tax base. According to
the City, from 2009 until 2013, the municipal tax base decreased approximately 13% and approximately
10% of the City's residential housing units are vacant. Per Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
census data, the <u>entire City</u> is considered Low Moderate Middle Income.

The City of <u>Dearborn's</u> Economic and Community Development Department conducted a survey of all
industrial sites within Dearborn and found that 144 industrial sites are significantly undervalued and
underutilized. Industrial areas of Dearborn typically have high poverty levels of 35% and extremely low
per capita income of \$7,500 (www.census.gov).

The City of <u>Ypsilanti</u>, has been hard hit by the decline in automotive manufacturing. Ypsilanti's population has drastically declined by 34% since 1970, a majority of which were blue collar workers. In addition, approximately 40% of the population is now minority based. Ypsilanti's high poverty rate of 28.8%, is exemplified by its median household income of \$32,996 (www.census.gov).

A perfect storm of a declining population, declining property values, fewer jobs, fewer industrial tax payers, and declining state revenue sharing has put a squeeze on the area's revenues and budget. Since 2008, property tax values in the area have declined an average of 30% (*DCC*). Although the property values are beginning to stabilize, the damage has been done, which resulted in a \$100 million property tax loss to the Downriver area, drastically impacting operating revenues. Unless the Coalition receives an additional assessment grant, it will not have sufficient funds to continue the massive effort of cleaning up the area's brownfields. The estimated costs associated with the identified assessment projects located in the targeted communities are estimated to be well over \$600,000.

2. Project Description and Feasibility of Success

2a. Project Description

2a.i) Project Description: The Coalition was formed to assist with the redevelopment of Downriver brownfield properties, with special emphasis on properties that are vacant or underutilized and pose potential health and safety concerns. Coalition communities have all suffered from urban decay caused by the decline of the manufacturing base and plant closures. The Coalition has used EPA Assessment Grants to fund assessments at more than 270 sites, resulting in redevelopment and revitalization of deteriorated areas and mitigation of health and safety concerns, core objectives of Coalition communities' plans. The Coalition intends to use this assessment grant to assess and facilitate the sustainable and equitable redevelopment and cleanup of many more brownfield sites.

It is anticipated that most Coalition communities, including the small member communities, will nominate brownfield sites and receive funding under the grant. The Coalition has a long history of cooperation and equitable distribution of grant funds to its member communities. DCC's 2009 \$1,000,000 Assessment Grant was used to fund the assessment of more than 130 sites in 20 different DCC communities. DCC's 2012 \$650,000 Assessment Grant has been used to fund the assessment of 47 sites in 18 different communities.

Coalition communities have conducted site inventory and prioritization activities and will continue to conduct these efforts without assistance from the assessment grant. Many of the communities have master land use and revitalization plans and consider these plans in the selection of sites for assessment. In addition, the Coalition considers input from the local health department and community-based organizations for site selection and prioritization. Because of the urban deterioration that each community has experienced, sustainable and equitable redevelopment is a primary factor in their municipal master plans and brownfield redevelopment programs.

As outlined in Section 1, nine specific areas/sites have been targeted as priorities for assessment under the grant, based on their current deteriorated condition, the severity of threats posed to nearby sensitive receptors, and their redevelopment potential. These vacant or vastly underutilized priority sites were formerly occupied by steel mills, a paper mill, various manufacturing and automotive assembly plants, and a junkyard, and are located near disadvantaged residential neighborhoods and/or important ecological resources, such as the Detroit, Rouge, and Huron Rivers, the River Raisin, and the Humbug Marsh wildlife refuge.

These properties will be assessed using grant funds to identify and investigate areas of potential contamination and to identify redevelopment strategies designed to protect human health and the environment. Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) will be completed to identify potential areas/sources of contamination at the properties. Phase II ESAs, including geophysical surveys to assess for abandoned underground storage tanks (USTs), soil and groundwater sampling, soil gas sampling, and laboratory analysis, will be conducted to characterize contamination that may be present based on the findings of the Phase I ESAs. The Phase II ESA data will be used in conjunction with the communities' objectives to determine redevelopment options and cleanup requirements to protect future site occupants, surrounding properties and nearby residents, and the environment.

The targeted former industrial sites in River Rouge, Gibraltar, Monroe, Melvindale, and Tecumseh are planned for industrial reuse based on the existing infrastructure and the proximity of expressways, and the communities' master plans for these areas. The sustainable industrial reuse of these properties will create jobs and improve the tax base in these communities, which is desperately needed. A state of the art new steel mill and a wind turbine manufacturing facility are among the considered end uses of these areas. The targeted sites in Ecorse, Ypsilanti, and Riverview are planned for mixed residential and commercial use, consistent with the communities' plans for revitalizing these areas, including improving the livability of the surrounding

neighborhoods. No specific uses for the targeted Dearborn area have been identified; the City plans to use the results of assessments to develop a plan for appropriate use, with an emphasis on job creation. Additional information regarding the planned redevelopment of the target sites is provided in Section 4.

2a.ii) Project Timing: The DCC, the grant administrator for the Coalition, has successfully managed previous EPA brownfield grants and hired the expertise necessary to conduct environmental assessment and cleanup projects. In addition, the Coalition communities have experience in grant management and oversight of environmental assessments, as indicated by the success the Coalition has had with brownfield grants. The DCC has an established contractor procurement process. Solicitations for qualified environmental consultants, review of proposals by a Coalition board subcommittee, and consultant selection by the full Coalition board will be completed soon after grant announcement, so that the team is established and ready to hit the ground running once the grant is awarded. As a result of the high number of Downriver brownfield sites and the active redevelopment efforts of the Coalition members, it is anticipated that sites will be quickly nominated and selected for assessment and that the grant funds will be fully utilized within the three-year grant period. The \$650,000 2012 Assessment Grant was 100% committed within 18 months, and many other worthy projects have been nominated, but not approved, due to lack of funding.

2a.iii) Site Selection: The Coalition site nomination process is designed to gain as much information as possible without the use of grant funds to evaluate the potential success of the redevelopment project. To nominate a site, a member community presents a site profile to the Coalition for consideration. The site profile includes: (1) site location, (2) municipal, county and state records, (3) previous environmental reports, (4) potential environmental concerns, (5) potential for redevelopment, (6) community impact, (7) planned capital investment and economic impact, (8) property ownership, and (9) property access. Access agreements will be required for all projects. The Coalition also welcomes site nominations from community-based organizations. The Coalition board members approve sites for funding based on their overall merits, with an emphasis on sustainable redevelopment plans and new job creation.

Once a site's nomination has been accepted, the Coalition submits site information to EPA Region V (and the MDEQ for petroleum sites) to confirm its eligibility for funding under the assessment grant. The Coalition also works with EPA and MDEQ to address eligibility and liability issues and ensures that a private property owner does not realize a "wind fall" profit from the expenditure of public funds.

2b. Task Description and Budget Table

2b.i) Task Description: The Coalition plans to use the grant to conduct environmental assessments at as many as 40 brownfield sites. Over 90% of the grant will be used for site assessment activities. The Coalition plans to spend 25% of the grant for the investigation of sites contaminated with petroleum and more than 60% of the grant for Phase II ESAs. Planned activities are described in the following five tasks.

Task 1- Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs): Selected sites will be evaluated through the completion of Phase I and Phase II ESAs. Phase I ESAs will meet EPA requirements for All Appropriate Inquiry (AAI) and the ASTM E 1527-13 standard. Phase II ESAs will be conducted following procedures specified in an EPA Region V-approved Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) and will be consistent with EPA and MDEQ requirements. In addition, site-specific Sampling and Analysis Plans (SAPs) and Health and Safety Plans (HASPs) will be prepared and submitted to EPA Region V for approval before initiating Phase II ESA field activities. The Coalition anticipates completing up to 30 Phase I ESAs (20 Hazardous Substance and 10 Petroleum) at an average cost of \$2,500 per Phase I ESA and up to 25 Phase II ESAs (18 Hazardous Substance and 7 Petroleum) with typical costs ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per Phase II ESA. The Coalition routinely caps Phase II ESA budgets for small sites at \$15,000 to leverage private and community resources for the assessment and to preserve assessment grant funds. Phase II ESAs for large sites with more complex environmental issues are considered by the Coalition on their merits and may be funded at higher levels.

<u>Task 2 – Hazardous Materials Surveys:</u> Hazardous Materials Surveys for asbestos, lead-based paint, and other hazardous materials will be performed by certified inspectors for sites where building demolition or renovation is planned. The Coalition anticipates completing up to 15 hazardous materials surveys at costs ranging from \$2,000 to \$10,000 per survey.

<u>Task 3 – Baseline Environmental Assessments (BEAs)/Documentation of Due Care Compliance (DDCC):</u>
BEAs will be prepared to obtain Michigan environmental cleanup liability protection for new owners/operators

of properties that are found to be contaminated based on Phase II ESA testing. DDCCs will be prepared to demonstrate that the planned use of the property is protective of human health and the environment. DDCCs will also address EPA's Continuing Obligations for CERCLA liability protection. The Coalition anticipates that many of the BEAs and DDCCs associated with sites assessed under the grant, particularly those purchased by private parties, will be funded with leveraged, private funds. The Coalition anticipates completing up to 8 BEA/DDCCs (6 Hazardous Substance and 2 Petroleum) at an average cost of \$5,000 per BEA/DDCC.

In addition, as part of due care planning, a cleanup plan may be prepared that is designed to meet the standards of the proposed use. This cleanup plan may also be used to leverage other funding such as MDEQ grants/loans, and municipal Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (BRA) Tax Increment Financing (TIF).

<u>Task 4 - Community Outreach</u>: The Coalition will conduct three community outreach meetings and various other community outreach activities, as identified in Section 3, to inform the affected communities of the brownfield assessment activities funded by the grant and planned redevelopment activities. The \$2,000 budgeted for community outreach (split evenly between the two budgets) includes costs for the publication of public notices in the local newspaper, printing, mailing and publication costs.

<u>Task 5 – Eligible Programmatic Expenses:</u> The Coalition will take steps to assure that no administrative costs are charged to the grant. Task 5 includes eligible program activities such as:

- Preparing meeting materials.
- Presenting and explaining the grant and brownfields program to potential developers, neighborhood representatives and other affected parties.
- Preparing brochures and other printed program materials.
- Attending DCC meetings, neighborhood meetings, etc., where brownfields grant initiatives are discussed.
- Performing required program activities such as contractor procurement and grant reporting.
- Coalition members attending regional or national EPA Brownfields meetings.

The Coalition has created an Excel-based project tracking sheet for tracking the status of each project funded by its 2012 Assessment Grant. The sheet tracks specific outputs funded by the grant, such as Phase I and Phase II ESAs, as well as outcomes for each project, such as the anticipated number of jobs created/retained, the total project investment, and funds leveraged. The Coalition provides this information in its quarterly reports submitted to EPA and updates the information in ACRES. The Coalition will use a similar tracking sheet for this grant to measure and track grant outputs and project outcomes relative to the grant objectives as stated in the grant application and the EPA-approved work plan.

2b.ii) Budget Table: The following table identifies the tasks that will be performed under the grant and the budget for each task.

	Project Tasks						
Budget Categories	Task 1: Phase I/II ESAs	Task 2: Haz-Mat Surveys	Task 3: BEAs/ DDCC	Task 4: Community Outreach	Task 5: Programmatic Expenses	Total	
Hazardous Substances							
Personnel					\$22,020	\$22,020	
Fringe Benefits					\$8,980	\$8,980	
Travel					\$2,000	\$2,000	
Supplies			•	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	
Contractual	\$323,000	\$60,000	\$30,000		\$2,000	\$415,000	
Hazardous Subtotal	\$323,000	\$60,000	\$30,000	\$1,000	\$36,000	\$450,000	
Petroleum							
Personnel					\$7,150	\$7,150	
Fringe Benefits					\$2,850	\$2,850	
Travel					\$1,000	\$1,000	
Supplies		"	"	\$1,000		\$1,000	
Contractual	\$127,000		\$10,000		\$1,000	\$138,000	
Petroleum Subtotal	\$127,000		\$10,000	\$1,000	\$12,000	\$150 <u>,</u> 000	
Total Grant Budget	\$450,000	\$60,000	\$40,000	\$2,000	\$48,000	\$600,0 <u>00</u>	

2c. Ability to Leverage: Given the magnitude of brownfields in the Downriver area, the financial needs are

enormous. The need for assessment funds is in the multi-millions and the need for cleanup funds is many times greater. However, the Coalition communities have established an effective program for addressing brownfields assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment needs using other public-private funding sources.

Most Coalition communities have formed a BRA with an individual designee to oversee brownfields redevelopment within their community. The formation of a BRA allows a municipality to use BRA TIF. Further, these communities are committed to attending monthly Coalition meetings and participating in the Coalition. Each municipal designee has contributed in-kind services to accomplish the Coalition goals. Total in-kind contributions by Coalition municipalities, for only the monthly Coalition meetings, are estimated to be \$50,000 over the three-year grant period. Countless additional in-kind hours are contributed by Coalition members during contractor selection, grant reporting, and regional and national brownfields meetings and conferences. Furthermore, contracted environmental consultants contribute an estimated \$25,000 over the course of three years through the completion of marketing, attending monthly Coalition meetings, development of project procedures and forms, assisting communities with site nominations, and overall project redevelopment goals.

The Coalition plans to leverage other public and private funds for the completion of the planned assessment activities. Area-wide brownfield planning is conducted by each community without the use of assessment grant funds. The Coalition also routinely caps Phase II ESA budgets for small sites at \$15,000 to leverage private and municipal funding. In addition, the Coalition anticipates that many of the BEAs and DDCCs for sites assessed using the grant and ultimately acquired by private parties will be funded by the private party. These activities, as well as other cleanup planning activities, may be paid for through the community's BRA TIF.

In addition, Coalition communities will use environmental assessments completed under the assessment grant to leverage other private investment and/or public funds to complete the necessary investigation and cleanup of target brownfield sites. The funding sources available to Coalition municipalities include:

Municipal Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Tax Increment Financing. This funding program allows reimbursement of investigation and cleanup costs using State and local incremental tax revenues generated by the brownfields redevelopment.

MDEQ Brownfields Redevelopment Grants and Loans. The MDEQ can provide grants and loans of up to \$1 million to local units of government for response activities at brownfield properties where a new economic development has been identified.

Other sources of funding include:

- Metropolitan Growth and Development Corporation, US Small Business Administration, Section 504 Loan.
- US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Section 108 Loan.
- US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Brownfields Economic Development Initiative Grant.
- Other EPA grants including potential future cleanup grants and the current DCC EPA revolving loan fund.

3. Community Engagement and Partnerships

3a. Plan for Involving Targeted Community & Other Stakeholders; and Communicating Project Progress:

3a.i) Community Involvement Plan: The Coalition's approach is to reach and involve as much of the affected community as possible. The Coalition will conduct three Community Outreach Meetings to present the Grant Program. To inform the public of these meetings, the Coalition will: (1) publish a notice in a well-circulated local newspaper, (2) post the notice on the DCC internet homepage (www.dccwf.org), and (3) broadcast the notice on local public access cable television. The Coalition will also attempt to use social media (twitter, LinkedIn) to disseminate information. During these meetings the public will be informed on: (1) duration of the initial comment period, (2) their local municipal representative to the Coalition, (3) how to provide comment or nominate sites for assessment, and (4) the date and location of the public hearing.

The Coalition will assist the member communities with conducting their own outreach meetings by providing handouts, meeting space (if necessary), and personnel. Using each Coalition municipality to provide public notice allows the local municipality to adapt communication programs to notify their citizens and account for alternate first languages. The Coalition will utilize English to communicate the notification; however, in areas where Arabic or Spanish are needed, the Coalition will rely on the local municipality to provide alternative language ability (5.5% of the Downriver area is non-English speaking, 2010 U.S. Census). At the end of the

30-day notice period, the Coalition will conduct a public hearing to review comments received and solicit additional comments. The Coalition will incorporate comments and modify the Grant program, as appropriate.

In addition, most Coalition communities have formed a Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (BRA) to assist with brownfields redevelopment. BRA meetings are open to the public and include discussions regarding the identification, planned redevelopment, and planned cleanup for local brownfields sites. The DCC will continually evaluate the effectiveness of the outreach techniques to accommodate the affected community.

3a.ii) Communicating Progress: The Coalition's member communities are the front lines for interaction with their citizens and interested brownfield developers. The Coalition's local municipal and community based representatives and environmental consultants meet at the DCC on a monthly basis to discuss the following program activities: (1) budgetary overview of the active grants, (2) nominated sites for assessment, (3) status of ongoing assessments and results of completed assessments, and (4) brownfield related conferences and workshops available to the communities. Detailed meeting minutes are provided to member communities for distribution to their local citizens and stakeholders.

The Coalition works to consistently update an inventory of all nominated and assessed project sites, including sites that are "redevelopment ready", which is circulated to community members and is available on the DCC's website. Through the Coalition communities, there is already a large, on-going, marketing effort, which results in a nearly constant flow of interested developers and nominated sites. These communication techniques have been proven to adequately reach the target communities. This is demonstrated by the success of previous assessment grant programs, which have assessed over 270 sites in over 20 communities. The projects ranged from small "mom and pop" sites to expansive industrial complexes to National Park sites.

3b. Partnerships and Government Agencies: The most relevant example of a partnership is the Coalition itself. The Coalition was created for and comprised of local communities with a common objective: the assessment and cleanup of underutilized brownfield sites to mitigate health and safety concerns and to revitalize the communities. One of the major outcomes was that 17 local communities and a Port Authority have joined together under DCC to secure numerous grants that have provided the funding necessary to begin tackling brownfields redevelopment. The DCC will act as an advisory group for this assessment grant.

3b.i) Local/State/Tribal Environmental Authority: The Coalition will continue its on-going partnership with the MDEQ to help ensure appropriate cleanup of brownfield sites. Site assessment and cleanup will be conducted in compliance with the rules and guidance promulgated by the MDEQ pursuant to Michigan's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP). The Coalition will coordinate with MDEQ district and headquarters staff for VCP technical support, resolution of regulatory or procedural issues, and interpretation of rules and guidance documents. The MDEQ will also review and approve Remedial Action Plans (RAPs) and Documentation of Due Care Compliance reports for brownfield sites where response actions are completed.

The Wayne, Monroe, Washtenaw, and Lenawee County Health Departments (HDs) will continue to be involved in environmental health and brownfields redevelopment issues facing communities within their jurisdictions. The HDs will provide input on the selection and prioritization of sites for assessment. If contamination is identified that has the potential to negatively impact the health of local populations, especially as related to off-site exposures that would not be the statutory responsibility of the local community or a non-liable developer, the MDEQ and HD will be brought in as project partners. Their expertise and experience will be called upon to identify/verify off-site health threats posed by contamination; identify related toxicological issues; perform risk evaluations; design and conduct notification/education programs; and coordinate health testing, as applicable. The Wayne County HD's letter of support is provided in Attachment C.

3b.ii) Other Relevant Governmental Partnerships: The following organizations are also Coalition brownfield program partners:

Southeast Michigan Community Alliance (SEMCA): SEMCA was created by the State to simplify public and business access to important educational, training, self-help, and economic development opportunities. SEMCA provides the funding for the job placement and training portion of the DCC. DCC and SEMCA have worked together on employment issues in the region for over 20 years. DCC and SEMCA will work to link employment opportunities in the proposed brownfields projects with members of the Coalition communities. Metropolitan Growth and Development Corp (MGDC): The MGDC is a certified non-profit corporation that is recognized by the Small Business Administration (SBA) to assist eligible businesses to participate in the SBA

504 Loan program. The SBA 504 Loan Program is a partnership between the MGDC and a commercial lender that is available to viable businesses where the financing will assist in creating or retaining jobs, exporting their products or services, and expanding ownership opportunities in Michigan. The Coalition has recently partnered with this organization to assist a startup company (Ventower) to construct and operate a 100,000 square foot state of the art wind turbine tower manufacturing facility on a former landfill property in Monroe, Michigan. The site was assessed and remediated using Coalition EPA Assessment and RLF Grants.

Wayne County Economic Development Growth Engine (EDGE): Wayne County EDGE works to strengthen the region by connecting partners with resources needed to start or expand businesses, revitalize communities, and network with organizations dedicated to the progress of Wayne County and its residents. Wayne County EDGE is partnering with the Coalition to provide advice on projects that will result in job creation as well as lending their expertise to evaluative the feasibility of redeveloping brownfield properties.

3c. Partnerships with Community Organizations: The following community-based organizations will be directly involved in the Assessment Grant project; letters of commitment are in Attachment C:

<u>University of Michigan Dearborn:</u> Since its founding in 1959, University of Michigan Dearborn has been distinguished by its commitment to providing excellent educational opportunities responsive to the needs of southeastern Michigan. The University aims to achieve a major impact in meeting the needs of our region's evolving economy, environment, and culture. To further this aim, the University is an active partner and participating advisory member to the Coalition brownfield board. The University's role will be to coordinate with other community support organizations and bring their needs into alignment with the Coalition's goals.

Wayne Metro Community Action Agency (WMCAA): WMCAA was created in the 1960s to empower low-income individuals and strengthen communities through diverse services, leadership, and collaboration. WMCAA will work with the Coalition to identify and prioritize sites to receive grant funding specifically to drive job creation for low income individuals and support low income housing developments. In addition, WMCAA will coordinate with the Coalition to augment involvement in their existing Community Funding Initiative, which is designed to support community—based organizations in the implementation of service projects that meet the needs of low-income community members.

<u>Friends of the Rouge (FOTR):</u> FOTR is a non-profit organization created in 1986 to raise awareness about the need to clean up the Rouge River. FOTR's mission is promoting restoration and stewardship of the Rouge River ecosystem through education, citizen involvement, and other collaborative efforts, for the purpose of improving the quality of life of the people, plants and animals of the watershed. FOTR is partnering with the Coalition to take their success in increasing community awareness of the environment and expanding it. FOTR can provide the Coalition with an experienced staff of educators and organizers to create a community education program to teach local citizens the importance of environmental stewardship and natural resource restoration. FOTR will also provide input on site selection and land use proposals for redevelopment projects that are located near the area's many natural resources.

Monroe County Industrial Development Corporation (MCIDC): MCIDC is a private, non-profit organization serving industry to attract, retain and diversify job opportunities in Monroe County in manufacturing, research and service. This organization was formed in 1982 by area business people charged with improving the local economy by actively supporting the manufacturing base. MCIDC is partnering with the Coalition because these organizations have a common goal of creating jobs and expanding investment in the local economy. MCIDC is committed to working with the Coalition by participating in the site selection process. This will involve advising the board on projects that will result in job creation and assisting in evaluating the feasibility of projects by using MCIDC's years of experience in developing and redeveloping industrial properties.

<u>Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge (DRIWR)</u>: The DRIWR was established in 2001 as the first International Wildlife Refuge in North America and has grown from 304 acres to 18,462 acres. The Coalition has partnered with DRIWR to complete assessments and cleanups of the Humbug Marsh, a 465-acre national wildlife refuge. Because the DRIWR has been a recipient of Coalition funding, they are participants at board meetings and actively participate in discussions about the use of grant funds. Additionally, DRIWR has been used by the Coalition for off-site board meetings and for educational tours for its board members and other supporters. The DRIWR will continue to be a strong supporter of the Coalition's brownfields program by providing input on site selection and land use proposals for projects.

4. Project Benefits

The Downriver area has a legacy of countless disadvantaged and contaminated properties, often in close

proximity to low-income residential areas and large minority populations, as noted in Section 1. The Coalition is committed to work with affected communities to assess the conditions of these sites to facilitate their cleanup and redevelopment and to protect public health and environment. Assessments conducted under previous Coalition grants have lead to the redevelopment/cleanup of over 70 sites that have not only mitigated the environmental hazards, but have brought new tax revenue, over 5,000 jobs, and life into the affected communities, while creating over 100 acres of green space. The Coalition will use the new grant to continue these efforts and build on these successes.

4a. Health and/or Welfare and Environment:

4a.i) Health and/or Welfare Benefits: The Coalition will use the grant to conduct assessments for planned brownfield redevelopment and cleanup projects throughout the Downriver area. Phase II ESAs and hazardous materials surveys conducted under the grant will characterize the nature and extent of contamination on targeted properties. Phase il ESA analytical data will compared to Michigan's risk-based cleanup criteria for the ingestion, volatile inhalation, particulate (dust) inhalation, indoor inhalation (vapor intrusion), and direct dermal exposure human health exposure pathways, as well as the protection of surface water. The Phase II ESA data will be compared to the both the baseline (residential) criteria and the applicable criteria based on the current/future intended land use. Documentation of Due Care Compliance reports (risk assessment equivalents) will be developed for sites where the level of contamination is greater than the residential standards and will identify appropriate response activities necessary to protect public health and the environment in association with the proposed use/redevelopment. By considering the future intended site use in the due care planning activities, site redevelopment features such as new concrete pavement, an engineered barrier to prevent contact with contaminants and institutional controls such as deed restrictions prohibiting residential land use, can be incorporated into the remediation plans to ensure public safety while reducing cleanup and redevelopment costs. The redevelopment of uncontrolled, vacant brownfield facilities will also mitigate adverse health effects to residents in the surrounding areas.

With the help of leveraged funds, the goal of the Coalition is to clean and redevelop each site that is evaluated with funds from the assessment grant. The welfare and public health benefits of the project will include: reducing direct and indirect threats to human health and the environment; improving the property values/equity in low-income and minority areas; improving the overall appearance and appeal of the communities; and creating jobs for a desperate work force.

Seven of the nine priority projects targeted for assessment under the grant in Section 1 are located adjacent to or in close proximity to residential neighborhoods, most with high minority populations, low income, and/or high unemployment. Contaminants at these priority sites, which were formerly occupied by steel mills, a paper mill, various manufacturing and automotive assembly plants, and a junkyard, include heavy metals, petroleum hydrocarbons, chlorinated solvents and PCBs. Vacant buildings on these properties contain deteriorating lead-based paint and asbestos. Residents surrounding these uncontrolled, vacant sites are exposed to contaminants via inhalation of dust, inhalation of VOCs, and direct contact with soil. Remediation and redevelopment of these sites will eliminate these exposures (through contaminant removal actions, engineered barriers and institutional controls) and will eliminate physical hazards posed by the existing abandoned structures. In addition, redevelopment will revitalize the areas surrounding these sites to create more vibrant, livable communities without displacing current residents. As new non-polluting uses are placed on old contaminated properties, existing residents are protected and new residents are attracted, bringing new life and economic activity.

4a.ii) Environmental Benefits: The Coalition is focused on protecting and enhancing its natural resources, such as the Detroit, Huron, and Rouge Rivers, the River Raisin, and the Humburg Marsh Wildlife Refuge. Six of the nine priority areas for assessment under the grant are located adjacent to or very near these important natural resources. The cleanup and redevelopment of brownfield sites along these rivers and wildlife areas will control contaminated storm water run-off and sediment impacts and improve the freshwater ecosystems, benefiting both environmental receptors (i.e., river flora and fauna) and residents seeking to enjoy the rivers' natural beauty and recreational opportunities.

4b. Environmental Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse/Sustainable Reuse

4b.i) Planning, Policies, and Other Tools: Coalition communities are very close to being built out with existing infrastructure. The Coalition is dedicated to the promotion of sustainable redevelopment, particularly in the reuse of brownfields and existing infrastructure. In many cases, the ability to reuse the existing infrastructure is

a key incentive to attract new development in our communities. The Coalition has a strong record of incorporating pollution prevention and reduction of resource consumption into their brownfield redevelopment programs. These programs include high-density development in areas of existing infrastructure and restoration of open green spaces.

The Coalition encourages innovative reuse of as many buildings and as much infrastructure as possible, and the reuse of materials when demolition is required (green demolition). The Coalition will encourage grant applicants to implement low-impact development storm water management practices during their site plan review process and other sustainable construction practices. The site plan review process will also be used to encourage sustainable reuse and energy efficiency through LEED and recycling/reuse programs. For example, the City of Dearborn's master plan for the targeted Dearborn Industrial Neighborhood project requires that these properties be redeveloped with renewable energy and green building technologies. Where public funds, such as those from the RLF Grant are used, the Coalition will have additional leverage to require/encourage the inclusion of sustainability, energy efficiency, and greenspace preservation design components through the site planning and site plan approval process.

The DCC, along with nine Coalition communities, were awarded an Multi-Purpose Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (Multi-Purpose Grant) from the Michigan Energy Office (MEO) in 2010. Project activities included: (1) building energy efficiency retrofits, (2) energy audits, and (3) development of an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy. The Multi-Purpose Grant was a tremendous success that established an energy program for the Coalition that reduces the use of non-renewable energy that contributes to climate change. This program has laid the groundwork for continued energy efficiency efforts in the Downriver Region, specifically while being coupled with Coalition's successful brownfields redevelopment program. The Coalition is actively pursuing additional energy funding, which will be incorporated into brownfield redevelopment projects.

4b.ii) Integrating Equitable Development or Livability Principles: Coalition communities are including equitable development and incorporate livability principles into their brownfields redevelopment projects that support and enhance existing disadvantaged neighborhoods, including mixed land use redevelopment in these areas with higher density affordable housing, local stores with healthy food choices, green open spaces, and recreational areas. These developments allow the community to live, shop and work all within walking distance. For example:

 One of the targeted areas for assessment, the Riverview Pennsylvania/Jefferson Neighborhood, includes 180 acres of land in or adjacent to Census Tract 5950, which has 67.9 percent poverty rate and 11.7 percent unemployment. The City's plans for this area include a new mixed use village-like development, with high density housing, local stores, open spaces, and parks, with access to the Detroit River. This investment would mitigate the existing contamination at the site and would greatly enhance the livability of the surrounding disadvantaged neighborhood.

In addition, Coalition communities use the assessment and cleanup of brownfield sites in developed, residential areas to incentivize strategic infill redevelopment and the reuse of existing infrastructure consistent with their master plans. Coalition communities also use brownfield funding to create "pocket park" green spaces in these developed residential areas. These efforts further preserve and revitalize existing neighborhoods.

4c. Economic or Non-Economic Benefits

4c.i) Economic or Non-Economic Benefits: All Coalition communities have felt the loss of tax revenue due to plant closures and the loss of jobs. As many of the businesses in the communities, especially manufacturing, have been forced to close in recent years, buildings have been left abandoned and properties neglected. Many of the abandoned properties remain in disrepair, often contaminated, and off the tax records. The Coalition does not have the resources to facilitate brownfields redevelopment on its own. The Coalition has proven that EPA-funded assessments have been a catalyst to redevelop brownfield sites and leverage other state and private funds to clean up contaminated properties. It is estimated that the \$650,000 2012 Assessment Grant will leverage \$100 million in investment that will result in 1,500 jobs (retained/generated and temporary) and \$5 million in new tax revenue. The Coalition anticipates a similar use of this grant, with similar economic benefit. For example:

A new state of the art steel mill is planned for the former steel mill property in Gibraltar that has been

prioritized for assessment under the grant. It is estimated that \$60 million will be invested in this new facility by a private developer and that 150 new permanent jobs will be created.

A new wind turbine manufacturing plant is being considered for the River Rouge Marion Industrial Property
that has been targeted for assessment under the grant. It is estimated that \$10 million in private funds will
be invested in this new facility and that approximately 30 new permanent jobs will be created.

Coalition communities incorporate green space, bike trails, and parks into its developments. Construction of green space is significant to prevent pollution migration into the environment and along with bike trails, provides links within mixed-use developments. Linear parks that are incorporated into brownfield redevelopments not only provide aesthetic appeal to the residents, but also prevent surface water runoff into the storm water drain and nearby rivers. These features also reduce motor vehicle emissions, which is a major source of air pollution in the Downriver area. The Coalition will continue to incorporate pollution prevention strategies in their brownfield redevelopments. For example:

- The Coalition partnered with the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge to complete an assessment of right-of-way corridors in Gibraltar and Trenton, which adjoin Humbug Marsh; a 465 acre national wildlife refuge. The assessment was conducted to assist in the development of a public greenway trail along Humbug Marsh. Additional assessments have been proposed in connection with the greenway trail and associated refuge sites. In addition, the Coalition awarded the project over \$500,000 in RLF cleanup monies. The Coalition will continue to assist this organization with assessments that may arise.
- The Coalition has created the Downriver Linked Greenways Initiative. The initiative involved creation of a regional, non-motorized pathway vision for the Downriver region. It is envisioned that this pathway system will connect the Downriver communities and Wayne County through a network of trails and greenways, and will feed and link into a rapidly forming regional and statewide system of greenways. The effort to produce a coordinated, functioning, non-motorized system is an essential factor in the quality of life for the communities. The assessment grant will be used in conjunction with the Greenways initiative for focus redevelopment efforts in areas adjacent to and encompassing the current and future Greenways path.

4c.ii) Job Creation Potential: DCC will work with the Coalition to link members of the communities to potential environmental employment opportunities and promote local hiring for the proposed brownfields projects. DCC is uniquely able to promote local hiring for these projects because it also operates the following workforce development programs: (1) Workforce Investment Act (WIA) for adults, youth, dislocated workers and displaced homemakers, (2) Welfare Reform/Work First, and (3) Employment Services (Wagner-Peyser) programs. In addition, DCC received an Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant from EPA that successfully trained approximately 65 local residents as environmental technicians that possess the necessary skills to complete brownfield redevelopment projects. DCC assists over 200,000 job seekers annually, operating a Michigan Works! One Stop Service Center located in Southgate, Michigan. DCC has a dedicated and experienced staff consisting of several certified Career Development Facilitators and other staff with relevant training and experience.

5. Programmatic Capability and Past Performance

5a. Programmatic Capability: The DCC has developed an efficient and successful brownfields grant management program. The DCC is a state-sanctioned community and economic development organization, typically managing over \$22 million in federal, state and local grant programs at any one time. It has a paid staff of over 100, overseen by a Board of Directors and managed by an Executive Director. The Coalition is overseen by a separate Board, is managed by a Program Director, and has four full-time staff members, including three for financial management. The Coalition Board and professional staff have over 15 years of experience successfully managing and using over \$12 million in EPA Brownfield Grants. Key to this success is the work of DCC staff members Ms. Paula Boase and Ms. Maria Mancos. The DCC intends to retain the current project leadership for this grant. Ms. Paula Boase, DCC Director of Economic Development, will be the brownfields project coordinator. Ms. Paula Boase has over 30 years of grant and loan management experience. Ms. Boase has a degree in marketing and graduate work in business administration. Ms. Boase has been project coordinator for the DCC Brownfields program since its first grant in 1997. Ms. Maria Mancos, Financial Director for DCC, will be the Fiscal Manager for the grant. Ms. Mancos has a bachelor degree in business and concentration in accounting. Ms. Mancos will assist with fund management responsibilities. She has over 5 years assisting with DCC accounting responsibilities.

Each of the Coalition member communities also have extensive experience in grant management (combined over 60 years of brownfield experience). The Program Director and Board will be supported by highly competent environmental consultant(s) experienced in all aspects of EPA Assessment Grant management. The Coalition will procure its consultants in accordance with applicable requirements of 40 CFR Parts 30 and 31. When the Coalition is awarded an EPA grant, a Request for Proposal (RFP) is prepared for environmental consulting services. An ad with the RFP is placed in selected newspapers and on the DCC web page. Efforts are made to provide small and disadvantaged businesses opportunities to compete. A review subcommittee created from the Coalition members reads and reviews the submitted proposals. A scoring system is used to provide an equable way of ranking each proposal, including an analysis of fees.

5b. Audit Findings: The DCC has provided services to the Downriver area since 1976. The DCC is in compliance with OMB Circular A-133, has had no adverse audit findings, and has not been required to comply with special "high risk" terms and conditions under agency regulations implementing OMB Circular A-102.

5c. Past Performance and Accomplishments

5c.i) The DCC has received 15 EPA Brownfields Grants since 1997. The five most recent grants are:

2006; 2008 Supplemental, \$4,500,000 Revolving Loan Fund (RLF), \$0 remaining.

2009 \$1,200,000 ARRA RLF, \$0 remaining.

2009; 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014 Supplemental \$6,400,000 RLF, over 90% expended or committed to be loaned.

2009 \$1,000,000 Coalition Assessment Grant, \$0 remaining.

2012 \$650,000 Coalition Assessment Grant, 100% expended or committed to projects.

5c.i 1. Compliance with Grant Requirements: 100% of the 2012 Assessment Grant funds have been committed. All funds are anticipated to be utilized by January 2015, prior to the end of the grant period. This grant has been used on projects that will bring over \$100 million of redevelopment, over 1,500 jobs (retained/generated and temporary), and an anticipated \$5 million of tax revenue to the Coalition communities. Many worthy projects have been nominated for assessment, but have not been approved due to lack of funding.

The Coalition has successfully closed out their 2006 \$4.5 million RLF Grant, \$1.2 million ARRA RLF Grant, and over \$1.625 million in Assessment grants. The Coalition has complied with the requirements of its EPA Brownfields Grants and has submitted all required deliverables to EPA Region V. All quarterly progress reports, financial status reports, and property profiles/ACRES database entries were submitted to EPA in a timely fashion. All public outreach, technical and administrative requirements for conducting assessment activities were met or exceeded. The Coalition retained highly qualified environmental consultants who work with the Coalition to assist in meeting grant requirements.

5c.i 2. Accomplishments: The Coalition has been very successful with previous EPA Assessment Grants. This success is demonstrated by the following accomplishments (outputs) directly funded by the grants:

Assessed over 270 sites in over 20 communities.

 Completed over 140 Phase I ESAs, 100 Phase II ESAs, 55 BEA/Due Care Plans, and 115 Hazardous Materials Surveys.

In addition to the direct accomplishments of the previous EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants, the site assessments funded by the grants were used to leverage additional investigation, cleanup and redevelopment activities, resulting in reduced health risks, reuse of abandoned properties and job creation (outcomes). These indirect accomplishments from the grants include:

- Leveraged over \$500 million in private investment, \$14 million in state cleanup funds, and \$260 million in BRA TIF funds.
- Conducted over 30 site cleanups.

Created over 5,000 jobs.

Completed over 70 redevelopment projects while creating over 100 acres of Green Space.

Property profiles/ACRES database entries were submitted to EPA in a timely fashion and reflect these tremendous outputs and outcomes in the Downriver region. It is imperative to continue these redevelopment efforts to bring life back to this depressed economy. Brownfield assessment grant monies are a key component of those redevelopment efforts.

Appendix 3 Assessment Other Factors Checklist

Name of Applicant: Downriver Community Conference Brownfields Coalition

Please identify (with an \mathcal{X}) which, if any of the below items apply to your community or your project as described in your proposal. To be considered for an Other Factor, you must include the page number where each applicable factor is discussed in your proposal. EPA will verify these disclosures prior to selection and may consider this information during the selection process. If this information is not clearly discussed in your narrative proposal or in any other attachments, it will not be considered during the selection process.

	Other Factor	Page #
X	Community population is 10,000 or less.	1, 4
	Federally recognized Indian tribe.	
	United States territory.	
	Applicant will assist a Tribe or territory.	
	Targeted brownfield sites are impacted by mine-scarred land.	
	Targeted brownfield sites are contaminated with controlled substances.	
	Recent natural disaster(s) (2006 or later) occurred within community, causing	
	significant community economic and environmental distress.	
X	Project is primarily focusing on Phase II assessments.	7
	Applicant demonstrates firm leveraging commitments for facilitating brownfield	
x	project completion by identifying amounts and contributors of funding in the	8,9
	proposal and have included documentation.	
	Community experienced manufacturing plant/power plant closure(s) (2008 or	1, 3, 4, 5
١,,	later) tied to the targeted brownfield sites or project area, including communities	
×	experiencing auto plant/power plant closures due to bankruptcy or economic	
	disruptions.	
	Recent (2008 or later) significant economic disruption (unrelated to a natural	4,5
١.,	disaster or manufacturing/auto plant/power plant closure) has occurred within	
X	community, resulting in a significant percentage loss of community jobs and tax	
<u> </u>	base.	
	Applicant is one of the 12 recipients, or a core partner/implementation strategy]
	party, of a "manufacturing community" designation provided by the Economic	
	Development Administration (EDA) under the Investing in Manufacturing	
	Communities Partnership (IMCP). To be considered, applicants must clearly	1
	demonstrate in the proposal the nexus between their IMCP designation and	
	the Brownfield activities. Additionally, applicants must attach	
	documentation which demonstrate either designation as one of the 12	
	recipients, or relevant pages from a recipient's IMCP proposal which	
	lists/describes the core partners and implementation strategy parties. A core	
	partner/implementation strategy party is a local partner organization/jurisdiction	
	that will carry out the proposed strategy, as demonstrated in letters of commitment or memoranda of understanding which documents their	
	contributions, roles, and responsibilities to the partnership. EDA may provide to	
	contributions, roles, and responsibilities to the partnership. EDA may provide to	<u> </u>

EPA a list of the core partners/implementation strategy parties for each of the 12	
"manufacturing community" designees, which EPA would use to verify this	
other factor.	
Applicant will serve an area designated as a federal, state, or local	
Empowerment Zone or Renewal Community. To be considered, applicant must	
attach documentation which demonstrates this current designation.	
Applicant is a recipient or a core partner of HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for	
Sustainable Communities (PSC) grant funding or technical assistance that is	
directly tied to the proposed Brownfields project, and can demonstrate that	
funding from a PSC grant/technical assistance has or will benefit the project	
area. Examples of PSC grant or technical assistance include a HUD Regional	
Planning or Challenge grant, DOT Transportation Investment Generating	
Economic Recovery (TIGER), or EPA Smart Growth Implementation or	
Building Blocks Assistance, etc. To be considered, applicant must attach	
documentation.	
Applicant is a HUD Promise Zonc community. To be considered, applicant	ļ
must attach documentation.	
Applicant is a recipient of an EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning grant.	

Attachment A

Threshold Documentation and Eligibility

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

1. Applicant Eligibility

The Downriver Community Conference (DCC) and the cities of Allen Park, Dearborn, Ecorse, Gibraltar, Grosse Ile Township, Melvindale, Monroe, Riverview, River Rouge, Romulus, Southgate, Taylor, Tecumseh, Trenton, Woodhaven, and Wyandotte, the Port of Monroe, and Washtenaw County, Michigan (collectively known as the DCC Brownfields Coalition [DCCBC]) have formed a Coalition to apply for a \$600,000 US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Coalition Assessment Grant. DCC, a government agency created pursuant to Michigan Public Act 7, will serve as the grant recipient. Each Coalition member is an eligible entity and the Coalition members are not seeking their own EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant for FY2015. Furthermore, the Coalition was not awarded an EPA Assessment Grant in FY2014. The Coalition members' letter of commitment is included in Attachment D.

2. Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority

A letter of acknowledgement from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) is included as Attachment B.

3. Community involvement

Refer to Section 3 for how the Coalition intends to inform and involve the community and other stakeholders during the planning, implementation and other brownfield assessment activities.

4. Site Eligibility and Property Ownership Eligibility

The Coalition is applying for a community wide assessment grant; therefore, no site eligibility or property ownership eligibility criterion applies.

Attachment B

Letter from State Environmental Authority



State of Michigan

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY





December 12, 2014

Ms. Paula Boase Director of Economic Development Downriver Community Conference 15100 Northline Road Southgate, Michigan 48195

Dear Ms. Boase:

SUBJECT: Acknowledgment Regarding the United States Environmental Protection Agency

Brownfield Grant Proposal

Thank you for your notice and request for a letter of acknowledgment for the Downriver Community Conference's (DCC) proposal to the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) brownfield grant program. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Remediation and Redevelopment Division (RRD), encourages and supports cooperative, regionally-based redevelopment efforts. The information you have provided regarding your assessment grant proposal has been reviewed and determined by the RRD to be of benefit to the citizens of Michigan.

The DCC plans on applying for a combined \$600,000 hazardous substances and petroleum assessment grant which could be used to conduct environmental investigation activities at eligible brownfield sites in communities in Wayne, Washtenaw, Monroe, and Lenawee Counties. The DCC is considered eligible for this award as a regional coalition of local units of government.

Should the EPA award the grant to the DCC, it would support assessments at numerous brownfield sites, facilitating redevelopment of these underutilized and contaminated properties, and improving the economic development and environmental conditions throughout Southeast Michigan. If further assistance is needed, please contact me at the number below or by email at smedleyr@michigan.gov.

Sincerely.

Ronald L. Smedley

Brownfield Redevelopment Coordinator Remediation and Redevelopment Division

Ronald L. Smelley

517-284-5153

cc: Ms. Romona Smith, USEPA Region 5

Mr. Brad Bradley, USEPA Region 5

Ms. Carrie Geyer, DEQ

Attachment C

Letters of Commitment from Community Based Organizations
And Letters of Support from Local Governmental Partners

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-DEARBORN™

November 26, 2014

Ms. Paul Boase Program Director Downriver Community Conference 15100 Northline Road, Room 135 Southgate, MI 48195

Ms. Boase,

Since its founding in 1959 with a gift of 196 acres from Ford Motor Company, the University of Michigan-Dearborn has been distinguished by its commitment to providing excellent educational opportunities responsive to the needs of southeastern Michigan. Shaped by a history of interaction with business, government, and industry of the region, the University of Michigan-Dearborn has developed into a comprehensive university offering undergraduate and master's degrees in arts and sciences, education, engineering and computer science, and management. The University of Michigan-Dearborn is a place where students learn and grow, explore new ideas, and acquire the knowledge and skills they need to achieve their personal and professional goals. As graduates of University of Michigan-Dearborn, students will have a broad knowledge of the many fields of human achievement, and will be prepared for their careers with imagination, reasoning, and creative problem-solving abilities. At the University of Michigan-Dearborn, we also believe that a university needs to be an active partner in addressing the challenges its communities face. Central to our mission is the goal of metropolitan impact. We strive to meet the needs of our region's evolving economy, environment, and culture by bringing the knowledge resources of the university into engagement with the needs of the people of southeastern Michigan.

To further this aim, we have become an active partner with the Downriver Community Conference Brownfields Coalition (DCCBC). As a participating advisory member to the DCCBC Brownfield board, I attend monthly DCCBC board meetings, relay potential brownfield projects identified by the participating community-based organizations, offer suggestions on reaching out to communities with greater need, and assist in developing relevant networks within the local communities to enhance the brownfields program and promote a strong grassroots effort in brownfields redevelopment. Our active participation in the DCC's Brownfield board helps us meet our goal in actively addressing the challenges of the people of southeastern Michigan and help the Brownfield Coalition in meeting their goal in seeking active community involvement as they pursue brownfield redevelopment.

We fully support the DCC's application for a 2014 USEPA Coalition Assessment Grant because we believe the use of the funds will help to address one of the major challenges the people of southeastern Michigan face. We believe redeveloping our brownfields properties and returning them to product use will not only improve our local economy, but also help to restore our environment.

Paul Draus, PhD

Associate Professor of Sociology and Health Policy Studies
Director, Master of Public Administration and Master of Public Policy Programs
The University of Michigan-Dearborn
draus@umd.umich.edu

2121 Biddle Avenue, Suite 102 Wyandotte, MI 48192

Corporate Office: (734) 246-2280 Service Center: (734) 284-6999

December 16, 2014

Paula Boase Director of Economic Development Downriver Community Conference 15100 Northline Road Southgate, Michigan 48195

Re:

Letter of Support for Downriver Community Conference

Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund and Assessment Grant Applications

Dear Ms. Boase,

Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency (Wayne Metro) is proud to support Downriver Community Conference's applications for the 2015 U.S. EPA Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund and Assessment Grant Applications.

For over 40 years, Wayne Metro has served its mission of empowering low-income persons and strengthening communities through diverse services, leadership and collaboration. As the Community Action Agency for Out-Wayne County (42 Communities surrounding the City of Detroit), Wayne Metro operates over 50 high-quality programs and services through five focus areas: Community and Economic Development, Homeless and Housing Services, Youth and Family Educational Services, Stability and Life Skills Services, and Basic Needs.

Wayne Metro is proud to partner with Downriver Community Conference through the Brownfield Coalition to conduce community driven planning activities centered on job creation, neighborhood revitalization, and the creation of equitable, affordable housing. We are committed to working with the Brownfield Coalition to identify, assess, and prioritize sites that will receive funding through the Downriver Community Conference Brownfield Program.

Wayne Metro applauds Downriver Community Conference for working to address critical community and environmental concerns. It is our hope that Downriver community conference and the low-income residents of the communities to be served receive strong consideration.

Sincerely

Louis D. Piszker

Chief Executive Officer







Friends of the Rouge • 4901 Evergreen Road-KM • Dearborn, MI 48128 www.therouge.org • Phone (313) 792-9900 • Fax (313) 593-0231

Promoting restoration and stewardship of the Rouge River since 1986

Paula Boase Program Director Downriver Community Conference 15100 Northline Road Southgate, MI 48195

December 3, 2014

Dear Ms. Boase,

This letter expresses our support for the application being made to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) 2015 Brownfields Assessment Grant program by the Downriver Community Conference (DCC) and associated Brownfields Coalition (DCCBC) of communities. DCC communities have been the home to heavy industry and now have a legacy of disadvantaged and contaminated areas, often in close proximity to old industrial sites. Brownfields have created seriously contaminated water-courses in the downriver area.

Friends of the Rouge (FOTR) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1986 to raise awareness about the need to clean up the Rouge River in southeast Michigan. Our mission is to promote restoration and stewardship of the Rouge River ecosystem through education, citizen involvement and other collaborative efforts, for the purpose of improving the quality of life of the people, plants and animals of the watershed.

FOTR has a long track record of educating and involving Rouge River communities in river cleanup, monitoring and restoration. Rouge Rescue, our annual cleanup, attracts up to 3,000 volunteers in 30-40 communities throughout the watershed. Our program in the schools, the Rouge Education Project, engages thousands of K-12 students annually in water quality monitoring. And, our volunteer monitoring programs train volunteers to collect data that is being used by state and local agencies to assess restoration progress and screen for problems.

We partner with the DCCBC to take our success in increasing community awareness of the environment and expand on it. We also provide input on site selection and land use proposals for redevelopment projects that are located near the area's many natural resources, such as the Rouge River and Detroit River. For instance, we are supporting the Fordson Island Cleanup Project. This six-acre island was created in 1917 by the dredging and re-channeling of the Rouge River to the Ford Motor Company's Rouge Plant. This island was formerly utilized as a petroleum transfer station and has been used for random illicit solid waste dumping. Restoration of the shoreline, improved public access, and recreation opportunities is planned.

For these reasons, we support the DCC's application for a USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant.

Sincerely,

Aimee LaLonde-Norman Executive Director

ajmit Shu



December 10, 2014

Ms. Paula Boase Director of Economic Development Downriver Community Conference 15100 Northline Road Southgate, Michigan 48195

Dear Ms. Boase.

The Monroe County Business Development Corporation is a private non-profile 501 (c)(3) organization serving industry to attract, retain, and diversify job opportunities in Monroe County in manufacturing, research, and service. Our Board of Directors consists of some of the area's top leaders, including representatives from the manufacturing, banking, utilities and local government. Our organization was formed in 1982 by several area business people charged with improving the local economy by actively supporting the manufacturing community. Industrial firms of all sizes located in all corners of the county have benefitted from out services. The resulting job creation and investment have greatly expanded the local economy.

The Monroe County Business Development Corporation has helped lead the development of nine new industrial parks. This investment in infrastructure bodes well for the continued private investment in our community.

The Monroe County Business Development Corporation is partnering with the DCC Brownfield Coalition because our organizations have the same goal of creating jobs and expanding investment in the local economy. Because Monroe County has long been viewed as the crossroads for commerce, many of the properties available for development or redevelopment are contaminated brownfields. We will need the assistance of the Coalition to help conduct environmental assessments and cleanup at these properties. In addition, the Coalitions insights and experience with brownfield redevelopment will allow us to better meet the needs of our development partners in site selection, construction needs, and identifying additional financial incentives.

Our goal is to be a one-stop shop for economic development assistance and information, including demographics, workforce intelligence, availability of sites, tax incentives, development training and practical advice that will help turn development, expansion or entrepreneurial dreams into realities. To this end, we are committed to working with the Brownfield Coalition to meet these goals by participating in the grant site selection process by advising the Brownfield Authority on projects that will result in job creation and helping the board evaluate the feasibility of projects by using our board's years of experience in developing and redeveloping industrial properties.

Please accept this letter as evidence of our commitment in support of the DCC's Brownfield Program and support of their pursuit of the 2015 Brownfield Coalition Assessment Grant.

Sincerely,

Tim C. Lake

President and CEO

1 Chake

Monroe County Business Development Corporation



John H. Hartig, Ph.D. Refuge Manager Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge 9311 Groh Road Grosse Ile, Michigan 48138

Voice: 734-692-7608 Fax: 734-692-7603

E-mail: john_hartig@fws.gov

Website: http://www.fws.gov/refuge/detroit_river/

10 December 2014

Ms. Paula Boase, Director of Economic Development Downriver Community Conference 15100 Northline Road Southgate, MI 48195-2408

Dear Ms. Boase:

The Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge (DRIWR) was established in 2001 as the first International Wildlife Refuge in North America and has since received national acclaim for its use of public-private partnerships in building an urban wildlife refuge in and along 48 miles of the lower Detroit River and western Lake Erie. The DRIWR protects coastal wetlands, shoals, and riverfront lands. Despite the urban setting, the area supports world-class wildlife. DRIWR habitats support 300 species of birds, 23 species of raptors, 31 species of shorebirds, and 117 kinds of fish.

We have already partnered with the Downriver Community Conference's (DCC's) Brownfield Consortium to complete an assessment of right-of-way corridors in Gibraltar and Trenton, which adjoin Humbug Marsh, a 410-acre unit of the International Wildlife Refuge. We have also received support from the Coalition in cleaning up over 40 acres of contaminated Refuge Gateway property that was formerly occupied by the Trenton Chemical Facility. Chrysler operated the Trenton Chemical Facility for 44 years to manufacture automobile components such as brake pad adhesives, blended oils, paints, sealers, powered metal parts, asbestos brake pads, and phenolic brake pistons. Soil and groundwater at the site became contaminated as a result of these historical activities. The Coalition provided USEPA Revolving Loan Funds to remediate the contaminated soil to protect the environment and to protect future users of the Refuge.

Because the DRIWR has been a recipient of Coalition funding, we are participants at board meetings and actively participate in discussions about the use of grant funds. Additionally, DRIWR has been used by the Coalition for off-site board meetings and for educational/awareness tours for its board members and other supporters. Furthermore, the cleanup of the former Trenton Chemical Facility will result in construction of a visitor center specifically designed to be a center of integration for sustainability, environmental education, and natural resource interpretation. The Great Lakes school ship will dock there and make use of the river and refuge as a living laboratory for children. School children from Detroit, Downriver, and all of southeast Michigan will regularly come to the Wildlife Refuge Gateway for day-long field trips. Wayne County Community College has also

committed to providing the funding for a classroom and laboratory for university classes. Children and families will be able to walk out of the Visitor Center and enter Humbug Marsh, walk interpretive trails, stop at learning stations, visit observation decks and an outdoor classroom, and much more. The goal is to reach thousands of children on an annual basis. In addition, a fishing pier will be constructed to provide for shore fishing for trophy walleye. The Detroit River and western Lake Erie are the "walleye capital of the world" and the Wildlife Refuge Gateway fishing pier will allow children and families who do not have a boat to get a world-class shore fishing experience. Also, a kayak landing has been constructed at the Refuge Gateway to offer exceptional kayaking through the International Wildlife Refuge and along the Detroit Heritage River Water Trail.

As demonstrated in this letter, the DRIWR will continue to be a strong supporter of the Brownfield Consortium's program by providing community educational opportunities and by providing input on site selection and land use proposals for redevelopment projects that are located near the area's many natural resources, such as the Detroit River and the Refuge.

This letter is further demonstration of our support for the DCC Brownfield Consortium and its application for the 2015 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfield Assessment Grant and the Revolving Loan Fund Grant. It is our strong belief that these funds will further benefit the DRIWR, as well as our region's other natural resources. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

John H. Hartig, Ph.D.



Robert A. Ficano

County Executive

December 15, 2014

Paula Boase Director of Economic Development Downriver Community Conference 15100 Northline Road Southgate, Michigan 48195

Re: Letter of Support for Downriver Community Conference

Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund and Assessment Grant Applications

Dear Ms. Boase,

The Wayne County Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is proud to support the Downriver Community Conference's application for the 2015 U.S. EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant Application.

The mission of the Department of Health and Human Services is to promote an assure the health and quality of life by providing, maintaining, developing and coordinating a wide-range of innovative and fiscally responsible education and health services to Wayne County residents so they can lead productive and healthy lives.

The cooperation of Wayne County HHS with the DCC Brownfield Coalition would be mutually beneficial because the goals of our organizations parallel one another. The assessment and eventual redevelopment of brownfield sites would eliminate potential threats to public health while creating jobs and expanding investment in the local economy. To this end, we are committed to working with the Brownfield Coalition to meet these goals by advising the Brownfield Authority on projects that will improve public health and helping the board evaluate the feasibility of projects by using our experience and expertise.

Please accept this letter as evidence of our commitment in support of the DCC's Brownfield Program and support of their pursuit of the 2015 Brownfield Coalition Assessment Grant.

Sincerely,

Carol Austerberry, Acting Deputy Health Officer

Wayne County Health Department



Robert A. Ficano County Executive

Bryce Kelley Director

2 December 2014

Paula Boase
Director of Economic Development
Downriver Community Conference
15100 Northline Road
Southgate, Michigan 48195

Re: Letter of Support for Downriver Community Conference

Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund and Assessment Grant Applications

Dear Ms. Boase,

The Wayne County Economic Development Growth Engine (EDGE) wishes to express its unconditioned support for the Downriver Community Conference's application for the 2015 U.S. EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant Application.

Wayne County's Economic Development Growth Engine (EDGE) works to strengthen our region through diversification and innovation by connecting our partners with resources needed to start or expand businesses, revitalize communities, and network with organizations dedicated to the progress of Wayne County and all of its residents. EDGE provides a supportive and dynamic environment for local, regional and international businesses alike. While supporting emerging economics and Wayne County's trademark automotive and manufacturing industries, EDGE works with the public, private and academic sectors to strengthen the region through diversification and innovation by providing the resources and incentives businesses require to grow and flourish.

Wayne County EDGE is partnering with the DCC Brownfield Coalition because our organizations have the same goal of creating jobs and expanding investment in the local economy. To this end, we are committed to working with the Brownfield Coalition to meet these goals by advising the Brownfield Authority on projects that will result in job creation and helping the board evaluate the feasibility of projects by using our experiences in developing and redeveloping industrial properties.

Please accept this letter as evidence of our commitment in support of the DCC's Brownfield Program and support of their pursuit of the 2015 Brownfield Coalition Assessment Grant.

Bryce Kelley, Director

Wayne County Economic Development Growth Engine



DETROIT/WAYNE COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY

December 10, 2014

Ms. Paula Boase Director of Economic Development Downriver Community Conference 15100 Northline Road Southgate, Michigan 48195

Dear Ms. Boase,

The Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority was created in 1978 by the Michigan State Legislature to plan, develop and promote the greater Detroit area as a freight transportation and distribution hub for the Great Lakes. The Port Authority oversees and promotes commercial and recreation activities along 32 miles of the Detroit River from Lake St. Clair to the Wayne/Monroe County border.

The Port Authority owns the City of Detroit's only general cargo terminal, located in southwest Detroit. This terminal is responsible for the inbound movement of steel and project cargo that is utilized by the regions industries. There are approximately 1,500 trips into and out of the Port of Detroit by both domestic and international vessels each year. In addition to overseeing operations at the Port of Detroit's terminal facilities, the Port Authority advances projects and programs in the maritime domain that promote tourism, economic development, alternative energy initiatives, and environmental clean-up while protecting international borders from security gaps, securing more than \$30 million in grants to fund those diverse projects areas.

The Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority is partnering with the DCC Brownfield Coalition because our organizations have the same goal of creating jobs and expanding investment in the local economy. To this end, we are committed to working with the Brownfield Coalition to meet these goals by advising the Brownfield Authority on projects that will result in job creation and helping the board evaluate the feasibility of projects by using our experiences in developing and redeveloping industrial properties.

Please accept this letter as evidence of our commitment in support of the DCC's Brownfield Program and support of their pursuit of the 2015 Brownfield Coalition Assessment Grant.

Kyle T. Burleson Deputy Director

Sincerely,

Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority

Attachment D

Letter of Commitment from Coalition Members





James S. Perry Executive Director

FUNDING SOURCES:

Department of Defense

Allen Park • Brownstown Township • Dearborn • Dearborn Heights • Ecorse • Flat Rock Gibraltar • Grosse lle Township • Huron Township • Lincoln Park • Melvindale • River Rouge Riverview • Romulus • Rockwood • Southgate • Taylor • Trenton • Woodhaven • Wyandotte

MEMBER COMMUNITIES

December 18, 2014

Department of Energy

Ms. Edie Findeis Cromwell Environmental Management support Inc. 8601 Georgia Avenue Suite 500 Silver Springs, MD 20910

Department of Human Services

Federal Transit Authority

Dear Ms. Cromwell:

Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth

Economic Growth

Michigan Department of Community Health

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

Michigan Department of Transportation

Michigan Economic Development Corporation

> Small Business Administration

Southeast Michigan Community Alliance

U.S. Department of Labor

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Please be advised that the attached list of communities/county agree to be a part of the Downriver Community Conference (DCC) Brownfield Coalition for the submission of a proposal to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for an Assessment Grant for 2015.

These communities/county understand that the DCC will administer the grant, be accountable to the EPA for the proper expenditure of the funds, and be the point of contact for all coalition members.

An EPA Assessment Grant will provide a great opportunity to make an economic impact on the downriver region. Additionally, this is a great opportunity to share services and valuable resources.

If you should have any questions or require additional information please contact me at (734) 362-3477 or by email paula.boase@dccwf.org

Sincerely,

Paula Boase

Director of Economic Development

anla Boass

Assessment/RLF Brownfield Member Communities

City of Allen Park	Community Besed Org.
1.100.0419	
Wille Blue	
Assessment/BLF Representative	Assessment/RLF Representative
City of Dearborn	City of Gibratter
Assessment/RLF Representative	Assembly RLP Reprosentative
Township of Grosse lie	City of Melvindale
Assessment/RIP Representative	Assessment/RIF Representative
City of Monroe	Port of Monroe
Assessment/RLF Representative	
Various many C.A. Februarians	Assestment/RLP Representative
City of River Rouge	City of Riverview
A	the state of the s
Assessment/RLF Representative	Assonation/RLF Representative
City of Southgate	City of Taylor
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Assessment/RLP Representative	Assessment/RLP Representative
City of Tecumien	City of Tranton
and the state of t	
Assessment/RLF Representative	Assessment/RL/ Representative
Washtenaw County	City of Woodhaven
Assessment/RLF Representative	Association/RIP Representative
City of Wyandotta	
Assessment/RLR Representative	Assessment/RLF Representative
Association/RLP Representative	Approximately (I.P. Raprosembility)
Variable of the state of the st	

City of Alien Park	Community Based Org.
	TO
Assessment/RIF Representative	Assessment/RUT Representative
City of Dearborn	City of Gibratiar
City of Domison	
Assessment/RLF Representative	Assessment/RLF Representative
Township of Grosse lie	City of Melvindale
Assessment/RLP Representative	Ameannent/RLF Representative
City of Monroe	Port of Menros
Assessment/RLF Representative	Assessment/RLP Representative
City of River Rouge	City of Riverview
Assessment/RLF Representative	Amessment/RLF Representative
City of Southgate	City of Taylor
Assessment/RLF Representative	Assessment/RLF Representative
City of Tecumseh	City of Trenton
Assessment/RLF Representative	Assessment/RLF Representative
Washishaw County	City of Woodhaven
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